

# WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT

## REGION 8

### WEEK ENDING AUGUST 1, 2014

---

#### OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEMS PROTECTION AND REMEDIATION

##### Last Week –

##### **COLORADO SMELTER SITE UPDATE.**

*NPL Listing:* On July 11, 2014, the comment period for the Colorado Smelter proposal to the National Priorities List ended. The comments may be found at: Regulations.gov, Docket #: EPA-HQ-SFUND-2014-0318). Of the 14 comments that were received, none were related to the application of the Hazard Ranking System, several were supportive of cleanup, others were critical about the need to do cleanup, and still others included the community expectations attached to the Governor's concurrence letter.

*Removal Activities:* The EPA will move forward with ASARCO Environmental Trust funded activities on Operable Unit 2 during the summer-fall 2014. These include the installation of Caution and No Trespassing signs and fencing around Benedict Park. Health education and outreach will continue and is being conducted by EPA, CDPHE, and the Pueblo City-County Health Department.

*Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study:* The EPA and CDPHE site team held their initial coordination meeting on July 22, 2014, and along with the EPA Remedial Action Contractor, conducted a site walk on July 24, 2014. Plans are in development for moving forward with requests for access and residential soil sampling this fall. The site team also is working to bring Pueblo City-County Health Department staff to Leadville, Colorado, to learn how best to set up their blood lead screening and home testing protocols using experience from Leadville's Lake County Community Health Program.

*Community Advisory Group:* The EPA and CDPHE site team attended the final meeting of the Community Advisory Group Steering Committee on July 24, 2014, which resulted in the formation of a 16 person CAG representing a cross-section of community groups and interests. A local real estate appraiser brought what was viewed as encouraging news to the meeting related to two home sales that had occurred in June; one with Federal Housing Administration insured financing, and one with U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs insured financing. Meeting attendees expressed some concerns regarding the language in the EPA's Consent for Access form and cover letter, which the site team will work to resolve. State Senator George Rivera was in attendance as an observer, but no follow-up with the Senator is anticipated. The first official CAG meeting will be held in late September, and EPA and CDPHE staff are planning Community Involvement Plan interviews for fall 2014.

**Contacts: Sabrina Forrest, Remedial Project Manager, 303-312-6484; Chris Wardell, Community Involvement Coordinator, 303-312-6062**

##### This Week –

##### **GOOD NEWS DEPT: ALL REGION 8 NEW START REMEDIAL ACTIONS GET FUNDED IN FY14.**

OSWER AA Mathy Stanislaus has agreed to fund new construction at 3 Superfund sites in Region 8 in FY14. Those sites are the Upper Tenmile Creek Mining Area near Helena, Montana, which received

\$1.6M; the Standard Mine site outside of Crested Butte, Colorado, which received \$1.3M; and the Captain Jack Mill in rural Boulder County, Colorado, which received \$3M. With the funding of these 3 remedial actions Region 8 currently has no unfunded Superfund construction projects. Once the new funds are placed in contracts work can begin to reduce the risk to the public and the environment resulting from contamination at these abandoned hard rock mine sites. For Standard Mine and Captain Jack Mill the work that is now being funded may represent the final chapter in bringing these sites to construction completion, so long as future monitoring confirms that the remedies are sufficient.

**Contact: Bill Murray, Superfund Remedial Program Director 312-6401**

#### *Next 30 Days –*

#### **SPILL PREVENTION CONTROL COUNTERMEASURE (SPCC) INSPECTIONS.**

During the week of August 4, 2014, staff from Region 8's Oil Program will be conducting production and non-production SPCC inspections of facilities in the Bakken Oil Field in North Dakota. The purpose of the inspections is to determine compliance with Section 311 of the Clean Water Act (the "Act"), 33 U.S.C. § 1321, and the Oil Pollution Prevention regulations found at 40 C.F.R. Part 112. The goal of the SPCC program is to prevent oil spills into waters of the United States and adjoining shorelines by requiring secondary containment for tanks, equipment and loading/unloading areas.

Region 8 will generally target SPCC inspections at high risk facilities (those that have reported oil spills, referrals received from other stakeholders, facilities with high oil storage capacity, facilities near sensitive environments etc.) Inspections will be targeted based off the above factors and additional facilities will be targeted while in the general area to conserve on agency resources. Inspections will be conducted both on and off the Fort Berthold Reservation.

*For informational purposes only, no requirement for immediate action by the Regional Administrator.*

**Contact: Melissa Payan, Oil Program Coordinator, 303-312-6511**

### **OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT, COMPLIANCE & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

**\*No items to report.**

### **OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIPS AND REGULATORY ASSISTANCE**

#### *This Week –*

#### **EPA MET WITH HERRIMAN CITY, UTAH OFFICIALS.**

On Tuesday, July 29, 2014, Mayor Carmen Freeman and Gordon Haight, Community Development Director, met with the EPA to discuss Operable Unit 3 (Surface Soils in and around Herriman) of the proposed Kennecott National Priorities List (NPL) site. The Region 8 Water Program (OPRA) and Superfund Program (EPR) participated via phone and OCIR DAA Mark Rupp chaired the meeting. Representatives from the Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation and the Office of Water (OW) also participated in the meeting. The City is interested in applying for Brownfields funding, but these properties are not eligible for funding due to an exclusion in the statute for sites proposed to or on the NPL. They are planning a transit oriented development, similar to the one in the Daybreak community, formerly part of Kennecott's operation and a residential development in this area. Bill Murray, Region 8 Director of the Superfund Remedial Program, indicated the region would look

[PAGE ]

into the potential for deleting Operable Unit 3 from the Kennecott NPL site. Deletion may allow the City to compete for Brownfields funds. We will provide updates to Herriman City regarding the status of our review. The City is also interested in working with the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ) to develop a Brownfields revolving loan program and they will be working with UDEQ on a parallel track.

The City is also looking at what funding options are available for a water reuse project. OW representatives indicated that the EPA is waiting for congressional action on the budget to implement the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovations Act (WIFIA), so this is likely a year out. HQ is working on scheduling a series of listening sessions on WIFIA and Herriman City representatives were encouraged to attend. OW representatives will provide information on these sessions to the City. Herriman City was also encouraged to consider options under existing State Revolving Fund programs for clean water and drinking water. *Information only, no action required by RA/DRA.*

**Contacts: Kerri Fiedler, 312-6493; Brian Friel, 312-6277; Melanie Wood, 312-7006**

## **MONTANA OPERATIONS OFFICE**

**\*No items to report.**